GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1008
ANSWERED ON:20.08.2007
SMALL FARMERS AGRI BUSINESS CONSORTIUM
Ramadass Prof. M;Sharma Shri Madan Lal

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is implementing the Central Sector Scheme for setting up of Small Farmers Agri Business Consortium (SFAC);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether all the States have formed State level SFACs;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken to ensure that all the States form State level SFACs?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): The Central Sector Scheme for setting up of Small Farmers` Agri-business Consortium (SFAC) was approved during the VIII Five Year Plan. The Ministry of Agriculture registered SFAC as a Society in January, 1994. The Government of India, Reserve Bank of India, Oriental Bank of Commerce, State Bank of India and Industrial Development Bank of India are the promoter Members of SFAC Society with total corpus contribution of Rs.10.95 crores.

(c): No, Sir.

(d) & (e): During the VIII and IX Plan, SFAC, besides establishing its own infrastructure, had contributed matching corpus to 16 States for establishment of State level SFAC and the State level SFACs were established in Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Four more State level SFACs have been established between 2003 and 2006 in Maharashtra, Karnataka, Rajasthan and Bihar with matching corpus by Central SFAC and the concerned State Government.

Besides, four State Governments, namely, Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Orissa and Andhra Pradesh have designated Nodal agencies for implementing and coordinating the work relating to SFAC. The remaining States have been requested to establish State level SFAC in their respective States by making a matching contribution.